

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

30 A vehicle hitch assembly (10) includes a stamped sheet metal cross
tube (16) of an elongated shape with a central hitch support section (18) and lateral
ends (20) mounted on the vehicle. A pair of stamped sheet metal members (22) of
the sheet metal cross tube (16) each have intermediate portions (24) that project
away from each other as well as having spaced peripheral flanges (26, 28) that are
engaged with and secured to the peripheral flanges of the other stamped sheet metal
35 member. The central hitch support section (18) of the stamped sheet metal cross
tube (16) has a hitch ball support (32) for mounting a ball hitch on the hitch
assembly.